

Reservation 2.0: Is Caste Still an Indicator of Backwardness?

**Ashwini Deshpande,
Ashoka University**

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Abstract

The 10% quota for the "economically weaker sections" (EWS) completely overturns the original logic of reservations on its head, while misconstruing the EWS category itself. We examine data from the India Human Development Survey to assess if caste remains a critical marker of disadvantage, and find that caste divisions are relevant, even amongst the "poor." The talk also addresses some conundrums associated with reconciling the long-term goal of eliminating caste-based distinctions and advocating caste-based affirmative action

Speaker Profile

<https://www.ashoka.edu.in/welcome/faculty#!/ashwini-deshpande-259>